

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 6-8 are presently pending in this application, Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claim 1 is amended.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 8 was objected to as being in improper dependent form. Claims 1-4 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Regarding the objection to Claim 8, Claim 8 is amended to be in proper dependent form. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objection is overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome because, in Applicant's view, amended independent Claim 1 is fully supported by the Applicant's specification as originally filed, as discussed below.

The outstanding Office Action indicates that the phrase "and not containing an organic coloring material" added by the amendment filed on December 21, 2006 represents new matter (Office Action at page 3, paragraph 8).

However, Claim 1 is now amended to recite "An epoxy resin composition for semiconductor encapsulating *essentially consisting of* an epoxy resin, a phenol resin, an inorganic filler, a curing accelerator, and a carbon precursor having a specific electric resistivity in a semiconductor region of $1 \times 10^4 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ or more but less than $1 \times 10^7 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$, . . ." The amendment of Claim 1 finds non-limiting support in Applicant's specification as originally filed, for example from page 5, lines 2-5 and Examples 1-7. Therefore, the amendment is not believed to raise a question of new matter, and Claim 1 is fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is overcome.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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